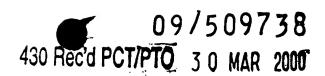
Dear Sir:



## PATENT APPLICATIONS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:	8/17/0
BLATT, Michael and LEYMAN, Barbara	PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
Int'l. Serial No.: PCT/GB98/02937	
Int'l. Filing Date: 30 September 1998 )	"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EL417666902 DATE OF DEPOSIT: March 29, 2000
Priority Date: 30 September 1997	I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER OR FEE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
For: "PROTEIN INVOLVED IN ABSCISIC ) ACID SIGNALLING" )	"EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10 ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, BOX PCT, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.
Atty. File No.: 2186PB-1	TYPED OR PRINTED NAME:
Box PCT Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231	SIGNATURE TIME MUSIC

Prior to the initial review of the above-identified patent application by the Examiner, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment. Fees for this Preliminary Amendment are calculated and included with the Transmittal Letter accompanying this Amendment. Please charge any underpayment or debit any overpayment to Deposit Account 19-1970.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

- 3. (Once Amended) A protein according to Claim[s]1 [or 2 comprising (i) to (iv), and optionally (v), and] which is capable of being cleaved by the toxin botulinum C.
- 4. (Once Amended) A protein according to Claim[s] 1[-3] wherein the hydrophobic C-terminus comprises the sequence from position 282 to position 296 of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID No. 2.
- one [of the] coiled coil regions comprises the sequence from position 210 to position 247 of the amino acid- sequence shown in SEQID No 2.